

TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Delegates,

That the “extraordinary state of affairs” in Maryland and the Republic, justifies and demands that we should adopt and publish the following Address to the People of Maryland:

Under the Proclamation of your Governor, we have assembled to act, according to our best judgments, for the true interest of Maryland.

That Proclamation has declared the present to be “an extraordinary state of affairs;” and all must admit the correctness of that assertion. We have been convened to do all that we have the constitutional authority and the mental ability of accomplishing, to provide for your safety and welfare during the pendency of the present unfortunate and terrible crisis. At the commencement of our labors, we feel it to be our duty to you and to your General Assembly to solicit your confidence in the fidelity with which our responsibilities will be discharged. We are Marylanders, as you are. We have families, as you have. Our interests are identified with yours. Our duty, our wishes and our hopes will be to legislate for the true interests of all the people of our State.

We cannot but know that a large proportion of the citizens of Maryland have been induced to believe that there is a probability that our deliberations may result in the passage of some measure committing this State to secession. It is, therefore, our duty to declare that all such fears are without just foundation. We know